

NEW FAQs from ACF/CB/JBS

Item 5: If the agency filed for TPR prior to the PUR, are reviewers supposed to assess whether this was done timely (in accordance with ASFA) when they respond to question 5F?

No, question 5F is determining whether 1) a TPR was filed at any point prior to the period under review OR 2) if it was filed in a timely manner (in accordance with ASFA) during the period under review. Reviewers only assess the timeliness of the TPR filing if it occurred during the period under review. If TPR was filed during the period under review but it was not done timely (i.e. not by the 15/22 month timeframe) reviewers should answer 5F No. Question 5F is “not applicable” if both parents were either deceased or relinquished parental rights prior to the 15/22-month time frame.

[Date Added: Tue, 04/18/2017]

Additional Guidance from ACF/CB/JBS for CFSR Reviewers

Oral and Dental Aspects of Child Abuse and Neglect

- In 2016, the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry reaffirmed its Guideline on Oral and Dental Aspects of Child Abuse and Neglect, originally developed in collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics Committee on Child Abuse and Neglect. You can read more about the guideline and find a link to the document here:
<https://cbexpress.acf.hhs.gov/index.cfm?event=website.viewArticles&issueid=185&ionid=2&articleid=4924>

Indian Child Welfare Act Guidance

- In December 2016, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) announced the publication of Guidelines for Implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act to assist those involved in child custody proceedings in understanding and uniformly applying the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and related regulations. The announcement is available at:
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/12/30/2016-31726/guidelines-for-implementing-the-indian-child-welfare-act>
 - You may download the guidelines from the BIA's ICWA site:
<https://bia.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/OIS/HumanServices/IndianChildWelfareAct/index.htm>